

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Fourth Bristol Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Fourth Bristol Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (518) of these admissions reside in the Fourth Bristol Representative District.¹ **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Fourth Bristol Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 85% were male and 15% were female.
- 59% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 88% were white non-Latino, 4% were black non-Latino, 3% were Latino, and 5% were other racial categories.
- 62% were never married, 13% were married, and 24% reported not to be married now.
- 28% had less than high school education, 54% completed high school, and 18% had more than high school education.
- 25% were employed.
- 33% were homeless.
- 34% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Fourth Bristol Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	51%	31%	5%	4%	3%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

¹ To protect client confidentiality, statistics representing clients under 17 years of age have been omitted from this fact sheet.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2003 Fourth Bristol Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	528	448	187	180	91	159	112
FY '96	484	411	179	140	54	116	81
FY '97	585	514	214	169	118	142	125
FY '98	783	670	324	232	173	226	164
FY '99	656	551	277	223	130	219	174
FY '00	525	410	170	150	93	187	161
FY '01	513	397	180	123	82	191	146
FY '02	512	368	165	142	81	205	159
FY '03	518	395	165	152	86	194	154